

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02333 171816Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, UR

SUBJECT: FIRST KAMA TRUCK ASSEMBLED

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IZVESTIYA ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 16 THAT FIRST TRUCK HAD BEEN ASSEMBLED THAT DAY ON MAIN CONVEYOR LINE AT KAMA TRUCK PLANT, WHICH IS UNDERGOING INITIAL PRODUCTION ADJUSTMENT WORK ("V KHODE PYSKONALADOCHNYKH RABOT."). PASSING BUT POSITIVE MENTION IS MADE OF ROLE OF FOREIGN FIRMS IN SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT FOR PLANT "ON MUTUALLY PROFITABLE BASIS."

2. FIRST TRUCK IS DESCRIBED AS "KAMAZ 5320" MODEL, WITH 3 AXLES, DESIGNED TO HAUL A TRAILER AND 16 TONS OF FREIGHT, A 210 HORSEPOWER ENGINE, AND A MAXIMUM SPEED OF 80 KILOMETERS PER HOUR.

3. PLANT GENERAL DIRECTOR L. VASIL'EV IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT 1976 PLAN CALLS FOR OUTPUT OF 4,000 TRUCKS AT KAMAZ AND TENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN DIRECTIVES CALL FOR COMPLETION OF FIRST STAGE OF PLANT DURING PLAN PERIOD OF 1976 - 80.

4. ARTICLE ENDS WITH NOTE THAT KAMAZ WORKERS HAVE PROMISED CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND POLITBURO, AS WELL AS GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV, HIMSELF, TO WORK "MORE EFFECTIVELY" AND WITH BETTER QUALITY TO COMPLETE TASKS SET FORTH IN 1976 PLAN AND TENTH FIVE-

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YEAR PLAN DIRECTIVES. END UNCLASSIFIED

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5. COMMENT - ARTICLE, AS EXPECTED, HIGHLIGHTS ACHIEVEMENT WITH
STATISTICAL REVIEW OF SIZE OF PLANT AND LARGE-SCALE CONSTRUCTION
THEREIN. TONE, HOWEVER, WAS SOMEWHAT RESTRAINED, PERHAPS
IN TACIT RECOGNITION THAT PLANT IS NOWHERE NEAR READY TO BEGIN
LARGE-SCALE PRODUCTION, AND THAT HUGE INVESTMENTS HAVE YET
TO SHOW SIGNIFICANT RETURNS.

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